LESSON 12

#(1) The *zarf* (الظَّرْفُ) or the *maf'ûl fîhi* (المَفْعُولُ فيه).

The *zarf* is a noun which denotes the time or place of an action, e.g.,

a) خَرَجْتُ لَيْلاً 'I went out at night' -- سَأُسافِرُ غَداً إنْ شاء الله 'I shall travel tomorrow' -- نمْتُ بعْدَ نَوْمك 'I slept after you slept.'

This is called *zarf al-zamân* (ظَرْفُ الزَّمان) i.e., adverb of time.

b) مَشَيْتُ مِيْلاً 'I walked a mile.' -- جَلَسْتُ عِنْدَ المدير 'I sat at the headmaster's.' -- نمْتُ تَحتَ شَجَرة 'I slept under a tree.'

This is called *zarf al-makân* (ظَرْفُ المَكان), i.e., adverb of place.

The *zarf* is *mansûb*.

Some *zurûf* [1] are *mabnî*. Here are some : أَيْنَ which ends in *fathah*; أمسِ which ends in *kasrah*; حَيْثُ and قَطُّ which end in *dammah*; هُنا and مَتَى which end in *sukûn* [2].

مَتَى : مَتَى خرجْتَ؟ 'When did you go out?'

أَيْنَ : أَيْنَ تدرُسُ؟ 'Where do you study?'

أَمْسِ : لَمْ أَغِبْ أَمْسِ 'I was not absent yesterday.'

قَطُّ : لَمْ أَذُقْ هذه الفاكهَةَ قَطُّ 'I have never tasted this fruit.'

هُنا : اجْلِسْ هُنا 'Sit here.'

حَيْثُ : اجْلِسْ حَيْثُ شِئْتَ 'Sit where you like.'

Here is an examples of the *i'râb* of *mabni zurûf* :

In the sentence لم أغِبْ أمسِ the word أمسِ is *zarfu zamân*, it is *mabni* ending in *kasrah*, and is in the place of *nasb* (في مَحَلِّ نَصْبٍ).

1- *Zurûf* (الظُّرُوفُ) is plural of *zarf*.

2- Because both these words end in *alif* which is *sâkin*. (مَتَى is actually مَـتَـاْ)

In the sentence أينَ تدرُسُ؟ the word أينَ is *zarfu makân*, it is *mabni* ending in *fathah*, and is in the place of *nasb* (في مَحَلِّ نَصْبٍ).

Words which function as *zurûf* :

A word may represent a *zarf* and so take the *nasb*-ending even though originally it is not a word denoting time or place. It happens with the following types of words :

a) words like كُلّ، بَعْض، نِصْف، رُبْع when they have place/time words as their *mudâf ilaihi,* e.g.,

سافَرْنا كُلَّ النَّهارِ 'We travelled the whole day.'

بَقِيْتُ في المُسْتَشْفَى بَعْضَ يومٍ 'I remained in the hospital for part of a day.'

انْتَظَرْتُكَ رُبْعَ ساعةٍ 'I waited for you fifteen minuites.'

مَشَيْتُ نِصْفَ كِيلُومِتْرٍ 'I walked half a kilometre.'

In these sentences the words كُلَّ، بعْضَ، رُبْعَ، نِصْفَ are *mansûb* because they function as *zurûf*. But the actual words denoting time or place are their *mudâf ilaihi.*

b) the adjective of a *zarf* after the *zarf* is omitted, e.g., جلسْتُ طَوِيلاً for جلستُ وَقْتاً طويلاً 'I sat for a long time.' In the first sentence طَوِيلاً is *mansûb* because it functions as a *zarf*.

c) a demonstrative pronoun whose *badal* is a word denoting time or place, e.g., جِئْتُ هذا الأُسْبوعَ 'I came this week.' Here هذا is *mabni*, and in the place of *nasb*.

d) numbers representing place/time words, e.g., مَكَثْتُ في بغـــدادَ أربعـــةَ أيامٍ 'I stayed in Baghdad four days.' -- سِرْنا مِائَـــةَ كِيلُومِـــتْرٍ 'We have gone one hundred kilometres.' Here أربعـــةَ is *mansûb* because it represents a word denoting time (أيَّام), and مِائَةَ is *mansûb* because it represents a word denoting place (كِيلومِتْر).

In the same way, the word كَمْ 'how many' functions as a *z̲arf* if it represents a time/place word, e.g.,

كَمْ لَبِثْتَ؟ 'How long did you stay?' or 'How many (days/ hours) did you stay?'

كَمْ مَشَيْتَ؟ 'How many (kilometres) did you walk?'

#(2) The particle لَوْ is used to express an unfulfilled condition in **the past**, e.g.,

لَو اجْتَهَدْتَ لَنَجَحْتَ 'Had you worked hard you would have passed.' This means that you did not work hard, and so did not pass.

Its Arabic name is حَرْفُ امْتِناعٍ لامْتِناعٍ which means that this particle signifies that one thing failed to happen because of another.

As you can see, the sentence is made up of two parts. The second part is called the *jawâb*. In the above example لَنَجَحْتَ is the *jawâb*.

The *jawâb* takes a *lâm*. This *lâm* is mostly omitted if the *jawâb* is negative, e.g., لَوْ عَرَفْتَ أَنَّكَ مَرِيضٌ ما تَأَخَّرْتُ 'Had I known that you are sick I would not have been late.'

Here are some more examples of لَوْ :

لَو سَمِعْتَ قِصَّتَه لَبَكَيْتَ 'Had you heard his story you would have cried.'

لو حضرْتَ أمسِ ما شَكَوْتُكَ إلى المدير 'Had you been present yesterday I would not have complained about you to the headmaster.'

هذا الطَّعامُ فاسِدٌ. لو أكَلَهُ النّاسُ لَمَرِضُوا 'This food is rotton. Had the people eaten it, they would have fallen sick.'

لو رأيتَ ذاكَ المَنْظَرَ لَبَكيتَ 'Had you seen that sight, you would have cried.'

لو عرفتُ أنَّ الرِّحْلَةَ اليومَ ما تأخَّرْتُ 'Had I known the trip is today, I would not have been late.'

#(3) In مِنْ قَبْلُ the word قَبْلُ is *mabnî* . قَبْلُ and بَعْدُ become *mabnî* when the *mudâf ilaihi* after them is omitted. We may say, أنا الآن مدرِّسٌ، وكُنتُ مُديراً مِنْ قَبْلِ ذلِكَ 'I am now a teacher, and was before that a headmaster.' Here ذَلِكَ is the *mudâf ilaihi.* 'Before that' means 'before being a teacher.' Now when the *mudâf ilaihi* is mentioned قَبْل is *mu'rab*, and it takes the *jarr*-ending (-**i**) after the preposition مِنْ. But when the *mudâf ilaihi* is omitted it becomes *mabnî,* and we say وكُنتُ مديراً مِنْ قَبْلُ which can be translated as 'and I was a headmaster earlier.'

In the same way we say, كانَ بلالٌ مَعِي إلى الساعةِ العاشِرَةِ، ولم أَرَهُ مِنْ بعْدِ ذلكَ 'Bilal was with me till ten o'clock, but I didn't see him after that.' If we omit the *mudâf ilaihi,* we say, ولم أرَه مِنْ بعْدُ 'But I didn't see him later.'

In the Qur'an (30 : 4) : لِلَّهِ الأَمْرُ مِنْ قَبْلُ وَمِنْ بَعْدُ 'The decision before and after (these events) is Allah's.'

✍Exercises

General : Answer the following questions.

The *zarf* :

1) Point out the *zurûf* occurring in the main lesson, and specify whether they are *zurûf al-zamân* or *zurûf al-makân.*

2) Point out the *mabni zuruf* occurring in the main lesson.

3) Point out in the main lesson words that are functioning as *zurûf.*

4) Point out the *zurûf* in the following sentences, and specify whether they are *zurûf al-zamân* or *zurûf al-makân.*

5) Point out the *zurûf* in the following *âyât*, and specify whether they are *zurûf al-zamân* or *zurûf al-makân.*

6) Give three sentences in each of which a number functions as a *zarf.*

7) Give three sentences in each of which a demonstrative pronoun (اسمُ إشارةٍ)

functions as a *zarf.*

8) Use each of the following *zurûf* in a sentence.

The particle لَوْ :

1) Rewrite each of the following sentences using لَوْ.

2) Complete the following sentences.

3) Use لَـــوْ in two sentences. The *jawâb* of the first sentence should be affirmative, and that of the second sentence should be negative.

General questions :

1) Give the *mudâri'* of each of the following verbs.

2) Give the singular of زُوَّار and شداد.

3) Give the plural of جَرِيحٌ and نَفْسٌ.

4) Give the opposite of ضَرّ.

5) Use each of the following words in a sentence.